Vanaspati and other edible oils as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the reasons for reducing the supply of imported edible oil to the Vanaspati industry?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Due to the reduction in the allocation of imported oils in manufacture of vanaspati, there was rise in the prices of edible oils and vanaspati upto January, 1987. The prices are now showing a declining trend.

(c) The supply of imported oil was reduced to:—

(i) encourage larger production of edible grade permitted minor oils such as rice bran and cottonseed oils etc.;

(ii) allow the farmers to get a better prices for indigenous oil as an incentive for larger production; and

(iii) to reduce imports of edible oils.

Non-availability of sugarcane to sugar mills

384. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI KALPNATH RAI:
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all the sugar mills in West Uttar Pradesh are lying closed due to non-availability of sugarcane;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-availability of sugarcane to the sugar mills;

(c) whether non-availability of sugarcane is also affected the working of the sugar mills in other States and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure availability of sugarcane cane to the sugar mills and to see that sugar production in the country does not decline?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) No, Sir, it is not a fact that all the sugar mills in West Uttar Pradesh are lying closed. In fact, as on 15th February, 1987, 25 sugar mills in west Uttar Pradesh were working as against 24 mills working on the same date last year.

(c) As on 15th February, 1987, 329 mills were working as against 313 mills working in 1986 and 277 in 1985 on the same date.

(d) Development of sugarcane is the responsibility of the respective State Governments and the sugar factories. Loans on soft terms are available to sugar factories from the Sugar Development Fund, for developing sugarcane in their respective reserved zones. Loans amounting to Rs. 13.50 crores to sugar factories have already been sanctioned for development of sugarcane.

On its part, the Central Government have taken policy measures like raising the statutory minimum price of sugarcane and increasing the proportion of levy-sugar, etc. These measures are aimed at improving the economic viability of the sugar mills to enable them to pay better prices for sugarcane. Besides, the minimum prices of sugarcane are now announced in advance of the sowing season.

Reorganisation of D.D.A.

385. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for reorganisation of the Delhi Development Authority for streamlining the process of development of housing in the city; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?